IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 3, 7-8, 13-15, and 17; and

Please add new claims 18-35 as set forth below.

1. (Currently Amended) A method, ~~for determining a tariff to be applied to a connection in a communication system by means of which connections may be made to terminals associated with any of a plurality of operators,~~ ~~each terminal being addressable by means of a subscriber identity formatted to include a first field and a second field, the first field being, for at least some of the subscriber identities indicative of the operator with which a respective subscriber identity is associated~~ ~~the method~~ comprising:

receiving, by~~transmitting to~~ an operator determination function of a~~the~~ network a first message requesting a tariff for a connection and including a subscriber identity field comprising an indication of ~~the~~a subscriber identity of ~~the~~a terminal that is to terminate the connection, each terminal in a communications system being associated with any of a plurality of operators and being addressable by the subscriber identity formatted to include a first field and a second field, the first field being, for at least some of the subscriber identities, indicative of the operator with which a respective subscriber identity is associated;

~~receiving the first message at the operator determination function;~~

determining, by ~~means of~~ the operator determination function, the operator to which the subscriber identity of the terminal that is to terminate the connection is assigned, and content of the first field that is associated with that operator;

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forming, at the operator determination function, a modified subscriber identity having as its second field at least the content of the second field of the subscriber identity of the terminal that is to terminate the connection and having as its first field the content of the first field that is associated with that operator;

forming, at the operator determination function, a second message requesting a tariff for a connection and including a subscriber identity field comprising the modified subscriber identity; and

transmitting the second message to a ~~tariff determination~~ control function ~~arranged~~ configured to analyse a subscriber identity received in a message requesting a tariff for a connection to determine a tariff based on the first field of the received subscriber identity.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, comprising:

~~transmitting~~ receiving together with the indication of the subscriber identity of the terminal that is to terminate the connection an indication of the type of the connection;

forming the second message so as to include the indication of the type of the connection; and

wherein the ~~tariff determination~~ control function is configured~~arranged~~ to control the determin~~atione~~ of the tariff based on the first field of the received subscriber identity and the indication of the type of the connection.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the operator determination function has access to a first database that stores a list of subscriber identities and for each one an indication of the operator with which the respective subscriber identity is associated, and wherein the determining step includes looking up the subscriber identity of the terminal that is to terminate the connection in the first database and retrieving any indication of an operator associated therewith in the first database.

5. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the indication of an operator is the content of the first field that is associated with that operator.

6. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the operator determination function has access to a second database that stores a list of indicators of operators and for each one content of the first field that is associated with that operator, and the determining step comprises looking up the indication of an operator in the second database and retrieving content of the first field associated therewith.

7. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the subscriber identity field of the message requesting a the tariff for a connection does not include the first field of the subscriber identity of the terminal that is to terminate the connection.

8. (Currently Amended) The –method as claimed in claim 1, wherein if in the determining step it is determined that the content of the first field of the subscriber identity of the terminal is associated with the operator to which that subscriber identity is assigned, the second message requesting thea tariff for a connection is formed with its subscriber identity field comprising the subscriber identity unmodified.

9. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the messages are initial detection point messages.

10. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the messages are SIP INVITE messages.

11. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein each subscriber identity is a telephone number.

12. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in any claim 1, wherein each first field is an operator prefix.

13. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the tariff ~~determination~~ control function comprises one or more of a service control point -of an intelligent network- and a service control function-.

14. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein each message requesting ~~the~~a tariff for a connection comprises a source field for indicating the source of the message, the source field of the first message comprises an indication of the source of the first message and the source field of the second message comprises an indication of the source of the first message.

15. (Currently Amended) The- method as claimed in claim 1, comprising:

the ~~tariff determination~~control function controlling the determining of ~~the~~a tariff for the connection; and

applying the tariff to the connection.

16. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the connection is a connection for transfer of data.

17. (Currently Amended) An <u>apparatus</u> ~~operator determination function for use in determining a tariff to be applied to a connection in a communication system by means of which connections may be made to terminals associated with any of a plurality of operators, each terminal being addressable by means of a subscriber identity formatted to include a first field and a second field, the first field being, for at least some of the subscriber identities indicative of the operator with which a respective subscriber identity is associated, the operator determination function~~ comprising:

an operator determination unit responsive to receiving a first message<u>,</u> comprising an indication of ~~the~~ <u>a</u> subscriber identity of ~~the~~ <u>a</u> terminal that is to terminate ~~the~~ <u>a</u> connection<u>,</u> <u>each terminal in a communications system being associated with any of a plurality of operators and being addressable by the subscriber identity formatted to include a first field and a second field, the first field being, for at least some of the subscriber identities indicative of a operator with which a respective subscriber identity is associated;</u>

<u>the operator determination unit being configured</u> to determine the operator to which the subscriber identity of the terminal that is to terminate the connection is assigned, and content of the first field that is associated with that operator;

an identity modifier <u>configured</u>~~arranged~~ to receive the content and form a modified subscriber identity having as its second field at least the content of the second field of the subscriber identity of the terminal that is to terminate the connection and having as its first field the content of the first field that is associated with that operator;

a message former configured~~arranged~~ to receive the modified subscriber identity and form a second message requesting a tariff for a connection and including a subscriber identity field comprising the modified subscriber identity; and

a message transmitter for transmitting the second message to a ~~tariff determination~~ control function configured~~arranged~~ to control the analy~~sis~~ze_ of a subscriber identity received in a message requesting a tariff for a connection to determine a tariff based on the first field of the received subscriber identity.

18. (New) An apparatus, comprising:

receiving means for receiving by an operator determination function of a network a first message requesting a tariff for a connection and including a subscriber identity field comprising an indication of a subscriber identity of a terminal that is to terminate the connection, each terminal in a communications system being associated with any of a plurality of operators and being addressable by the subscriber identity formatted to include a first field and a second field, the first field being, for at least some of the subscriber identities, indicative of the operator with which a respective subscriber identity is associated;

determining means for determining, by the operator determination function, the operator to which the subscriber identity of the terminal that is to terminate the connection is assigned, and content of the first field that is associated with that operator;

forming means for forming, at the operator determination function, a modified subscriber identity having as its second field at least the content of the second field of the subscriber identity of the terminal that is to terminate the connection and having as its first field the content of the first field that is associated with that operator;

forming means for forming, at the operator determination function, a second message requesting a tariff for a connection and including a subscriber identity field comprising the modified subscriber identity; and

transmitting means for transmitting the second message to a control function configured to analyze a subscriber identity received in a message requesting a tariff for a connection to determine a tariff based on the first field of the received subscriber identity.

19. (New) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the control function is a charging control function.

20. (New) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the control function is a tariff control function.

21. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein the control function is a charging control function.

22. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein the control function is a tariff control function.

23. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the control function is a charging control function.

24. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the control function is a tariff control function.

25. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 17, the first message further comprising an indication of the type of the connection;

the message former further configured to form the second message so as to include the indication of the type of the connection; and

the message transmitter is further configured to transmit the second message to the control function configured to control the determination of the tariff based on the first field of the received subscriber identity and the indication of the type of the connection.

26. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein the operator determination unit is further configured to:

have access to a first database that stores a list of subscriber identities and for each one an indication of the operator with which the respective subscriber identity is associated;

look up the subscriber identity of the terminal that is to terminate the connection in the first database; and

retrieve any indication of an operator associated therewith in the first database.

27. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 26, wherein the indication of an operator is the content of the first field that is associated with that operator.

28. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 26, wherein the operator determination unit is further configured to:

have access to a second database that stores a list of indicators of operators and for each one content of the first field that is associated with that operator,

look up the indication of an operator in the second database; and

retrieve content of the first field associated therewith.

29. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein the subscriber identity field of the message requesting the tariff for a connection does not include the first field of the subscriber identity of the terminal that is to terminate the connection.

30. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein the operator determination unit is further configured that if it is determined that the content of the first field of the subscriber identity of the terminal is associated with the operator to which that subscriber identity is assigned, the second message requesting the tariff for a connection is formed with its subscriber identity field comprising the subscriber identity unmodified.

31. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein the messages are initial detection point messages.

32. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein the messages are SIP INVITE messages.

33. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein each subscriber identity is a telephone number.

34. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein each first field is an operator prefix.

35. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein each message requesting the tariff for a connection comprises a source field for indicating the source of

the message, the source field of the first message comprises an indication of the source of the first message and the source field of the second message comprises an indication of the source of the first message.